

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LUXEMB 00186 181757Z

53

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 NEA-10 IO-11 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00

NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

SAM-01 ACDA-05 EB-07 FEAE-00 EPA-01 CEQ-01 DOTE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4964

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS UNN

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUXEMBOURG 0186

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EC, LU

SUBJ: DIALOGUE WITH EC PRESIDENCY, FEBRUARY 16-17, POLITICAL

DIRECTORS MEETING IN LUXEMBOURG

REF: (A) STATE 036589; (B) LUXEMBOURG 0140

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LUXEMB 00186 181757Z

SUMMARY: POLITICAL DIRECTORS MEETINGS WERE DOMINATED BY

ACRIMONIOUS ANGOLA DISCUSSION (SEPTTEL). DIRECTORS HOWEVER DID MANAGE TO DISCUSS EURO-ARAB DIALOGUE IN SOME DETAIL. BRIEF DISCUSSIONS WERE ALSO HELD ON THE SAHARA, KOREA, AND EAST-WEST RELATIONS. THE POLITICAL DIRECTORS ALSO AGREED ON AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE EC FOREIGN MINISTERS POLITICAL COOPERATION MEETINGS IN LUXEMBOURG FEBRUARY 23-24. LEBANON, CYPRUS, THE MIDDLE EAST IN GENERAL, AND OTHER AGENDA ITEMS INDICATED IN REFTEL B WERE NOT REPEAT NOT DISCUSSED. END SUMMARY.

1. EURO-ARAB DIALOGUE. THE POLITICAL DIRECTORS REVIEWED THEIR STRATEGY FOR DEALING WITH POLITICAL QUESTIONS AT THE GENERAL CONFERENCE (LUXEMBOURG'S 68). THEY AGREED THAT LUXEMBOURG'S AMBASSADOR TO ITALY, JEAN WAGNER, WOULD GO TO CAIRO DURING THE FIRST HALF OF MARCH TO DISCUSS THE AGENDA FOR THE CONFERENCE WITH MR. RIAD, THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE ARAB LEAGUE. WAGNER WILL BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS BOTH TECHNICAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE CONFERENCE AND THE EC SCENERIO FOR DEALING WITH POLITICAL QUESTIONS. THE EC BELIEVES RIAD WILL REACT FAVORABLY TO THE TACTIC OF DISPENSING WITH POLITICAL QUESTIONS AT THE BEGINNING OF THE MEETING AND THEN GETTING DOWN TO MEANINGFUL TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS. THE EC HAS ADOPTED, AS A WORKING HYPOTHESIS, THE THIRD WEEK IN MAY FOR THE DATE OF THE CONFERENCE AND WILL ASK THE ARAB SIDE TO WORK UNDER THE SAME HYPOTHESIS IN PREPARING FOR THE MEETING.

2. KOREA AT THE UN. THE POLITICAL DIRECTORS WELCOMED U.S. VIEWS ON THE KOREA ITEM AT THE UN PER REFTEL A. THEY AGREE THAT NORTH KOREA WILL ALMOST CERTAINLY PRESS THE ISSUE AT THE NEXT GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND WOULD LIKE TO BEGIN EARLY, INTENSIVE CONSULTATIONS WITH THE U.S. AND OTHERS ON HOW TO MEET THE ISSUE. THERE HAS APPARENTLY BEEN A CANADIAN INITIATIVE IN NEW YORK TO BEGIN CONSULTATIONS ON KOREA WHICH THE NINE APPROVES. ALTHOUGH IT WAS NOT FORMALLY DISCUSSED IN THE MEETINGS, THERE WAS SOME CORRIDOR CONVERSATION ON A RECENT NORTH KOREAN APPROACH TO SEVERAL EEC MEMBER STATES IN GENEVA. THE NORTH KOREAN AMBASSADOR IN GENEVA PROPOSED TO THE CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 LUXEMB 00186 181757Z

LUXEMBOURGERS AND OTHERS THAT HIGH LEVEL CONTACTS BE UNDERTAKEN BILATERALLY TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE ESTABLISHMENT OF RELATIONS WITH KOREA. THE LUXEMBOURGERS AND OTHERS RESPONDED THAT THEY WOULD HAVE NO OBJECTION TO MIDDLE-LEVEL, NON-OFFICIAL CONTACTS BUT THAT THE NORTH KOREANS MUST REALIZE THAT THEIR GOVERNMENTS ARE NOT PREPARED TO ESTABLISH RELATIONS WITH NORTH KOREA AS LONG AS THE SOVIET BLOC COUNTRIES REFUSE TO RECOGNIZE SOUTH

KOREA. THERE HAS BEEN NO FURTHER WORD FROM NORTH KOREA SINCE THESE EXCHANGES REPORTEDLY OCCURRED ABOUT SIX WEEKS AGO. IN THEIR INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS OF THE NORTH KOREAN APPROACH, THE POLITICAL DIRECTORS MINUS DENMARK WHICH RECOGNIZES NORTH KOREA AGREED THAT IT HAD BEEN HANDLED BY THE VARIOUS MEMBER STATES IN AN APPROPRIATE WAY.

3. SAHARA. IN A BRIEF DISCUSSION OF THE CURRENT POLITICAL/MILITARY SITUATION IN THE SAHARA, THE POLITICAL DIRECTORS UNANIMOUSLY AGREED THAT THE EC-NINE SHOULD STAY COMPLETELY OUT OF THE CONFLICT. WHILE A MAJORITY OF THE MEMBER STATES ARE PARTIAL TO THE MOROCCANS, THERE IS NO SENTIMENT WHATEVER IN FAVOR OF ANY SORT OF EC DEMARCHE OR INTERVENTION.

4. EAST-WEST RELATIONS. THE POLITICAL DIRECTORS RECEIVED AN EXPERTS GROUP REPORT ON DETENTE IN THE POST-HELSINKI PERIOD. THE REPORT INDICATED THAT THE RUSSIANS WILL VERY LIKELY PRESS FOR EUROPE-WIDE MEETINGS ON THE ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORTATION AND ENERGY. THE POLITICAL DIRECTORS HAVE NOT DEVELOPED A DETAILED STRATEGY FOR RESPONDING TO POSSIBLE RUSSIAN INITIATIVES IN THESE AREAS BUT RECOMMEND THAT THE FOREIGN MINISTERS CONSIDER THE QUESTION AT THEIR FEBRUARY 23-24 MEETINGS.

5. IN ADDITION TO EAST-WEST ISSUES, THE POLITICAL DIRECTORS WILL RECOMMEND THAT THE FEBRUARY 23-24 AGENDA INCLUDE ITEMS ON ANGOLA, THE EURO-ARAB DIALOGUE, AND TERRORISM. THE LATTER ITEM RESULTS FROM FRG INSISTENCE THAT THE COMMUNITY CONSIDER SOME MEANS OF FOCUSING INTERNATIONAL ATTENTION ON THE PROBLEM. THE TINDEMANS REPORT WILL NOT BE DISCUSSED AT THE FOREIGN MINISTER MEETINGS BECAUSE THE NINE HAVE AGREED TO DEFER CONSIDERATION OF THE REPORT UNTIL THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL MEETING IN THE LATE SPRING. PHILLIPS

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PAGE 04 LUXEMB 00186 181757Z

CONFIDENTIAL

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